

RICHMONDER IS ARRESTED

W. T. Poe Alias W. H. Beville
Passes a Forged Check in Raleigh for Fifty Dollars.

ACADEMY ORDERED CLOSED

Owners Will at Once Arrange
Fire Escapes—Governor Denies State Borrowed Money.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 11.—W. T. Poe, alias W. H. Beville, of Richmond, a young white man, passed a check for \$50 with the forged endorsement of R. B. Hall, of Raleigh, in a store here Saturday night, and was arrested as he prepared to take the 1:30 A. M. train back North. He was sent to jail to-day in default of a \$500 bond. Poe was formerly a Southern Bell Telephone Inspector in Kentucky, and says that he had been in Richmond only a short while. However, he has a young wife there, so he says, but refuses to give her address.

TO ARRANGE FIRE ESCAPES.—The Academy Music here was ordered closed by the chief of the fire department as unsafe and lacking in fire escapes, the directors of the Auditorium Company met to-day and decided to make the needed changes immediately. They will release the hall immediately and will receive bids up to noon Thursday.

NO MONEY BORROWED.—Governor Aycock denies the published report that the state had borrowed \$50,000. The only foundation for the report was that arrangements have been made whereby the \$50,000 earnings of the penitentiary for this year can be invested, if deemed proper.

American Cotton Manufacturers' Publishing Company, of Charlotte, is incorporated with \$2,000 paid in capital to publish textile magazines and papers.

A TERRIBLE STRUGGLE.

Officer Attacked by a Prisoner and His Wife.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

GREENSBORO, N. C., Jan. 11.—Mr. James Walters, a newly appointed policeman at Promixity Mills, had a desperate and nearly fatal encounter with a thief and his wife Saturday night in a house on the outskirts of the city. Armed with a search warrant and taking two civilians with him as aids, he proceeded to the house of Daniel Turnage, colored, to find goods he was suspected of stealing from the Revolution Mills store Friday night. He found the goods, and told the negro he would have to arrest him and take him to jail. The negro knocked the officer down with a heavy stick of wood. To prevent Walters from shooting, Turnage jumped on him, and they were having a terrible struggle, while the wife picked up a long iron pipe, and assaulted the officer's two aids, who fled in the darkness from the house. The woman then came back, and just as the officer had succeeded in getting a shot at the negro who was fighting on the floor with him, the woman came to rescue with an axe, and gave the officer a bad lick on the head with the pool of it. This caused the officer to break loose from the clutches of the negro, and as he arose, the woman struck him on the shoulder with the blade of the axe, barely cutting the fleshy part of his arm. He leaped out the door, just as the man who had secured the pistol, sent a shot after him.

The officer managed to make his way to a drug store, where Dr. Turner was summoned and dressed his wounds, which were not serious, except for loss of blood. He says he shot the negro through the stomach at close range. A squad of policemen went to the scene that night, but the occupants of the house had locked it and fled. A trunk full of stolen goods, taken from the Revolution Mills store, were found, but neither the man nor his wife has been found yet.

MISREAD THE ORDERS.

One Man Killed, Several Injured and Track Badly Blocked.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Jan. 11.—In a head-on collision on the Southern Railway this evening at 6 o'clock, near Blacksburg, an unknown man, supposed to be a tramp, was killed, and four of the two crews were more or less injured. Twenty loaded freight cars were piled up on a deep cut. The track is badly blocked, and it will take several hours to clear it.

Engineer Martin, of the northbound crew, admits that he and his conductor misread the orders.

To Expose Fire Traps.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

DANVILLE, VA., Jan. 11.—At the monthly meeting of the City Council to-morrow night councilman Perkins will present a resolution calling for an investigation of all the large buildings in the city, with a view to the protection of lives in case of fire.

It is claimed that there are a number of fire traps in the city which will come under the ban of the proposed resolution.

CALLS ON CITIZENS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

CREWE, VA., Jan. 11.—Owing to the fact that a number of homes have recently been invaded by burglars, Mayor H. L. Lee has issued a card requesting the people to provide themselves with defensive weapons, and to use them in defense of their homes. Every effort is being



made to catch the robbers, but without effect as yet.

On Thursday night of last week they entered the home of Mrs. Allen Harper. They broke into a side door and pushed it in with such force as to upset a chair near the bed on which Mrs. Harper was sleeping. The noise awoke her, and she called to her husband, who was in the room alone. It was not natural she should scream. Mr. Loyal Harper, a son, was sleeping upstairs, had heard the noise and was creeping down the stairs when his mother's screams frightened the man away. He was hotly pursued, but escaped down the dark hallway.

Whoever it may be, their boldness is a "nine days' wonder." Suspicion rested on a gang of negroes living in a house near the suburbs of town. Sergeant Allen gave them his marching orders, and it is hoped he had struck it right, but now they are reported each day, and the whole town is in a state of confusion.

The news comes from Buikview, that the same state of affairs exists there, and that many valuables stolen.

NO COUNCILMAN IS FOUO GUILTY

(Continued from First Page.)

by name) for having attended and for having made trips to New York at the expense of the company.

Voted With Company.

In regard to those matters the report says that those who attended the supper usually voted for what the company asked and that all those "who accepted those trips at the cost of the company, voted for the franchise."

The free use of telephones by councilmen is commented upon and all three of the companies are charged with having employed "political workers" to "create public sentiment" in favor of what they wanted.

The large sums of money and bonds charged by Fisher on the books of the Passenger and Power Company to "franchises," is referred to and the paper says that the evidence shows that \$240,000 were distributed by Fisher among private citizens of Richmond for the use of their names as incorporators of the Passenger and Power Company, and to others for this assistance in securing the franchise, but that the evidence failed to show that any of the stocks or money went to any councilman.

The methods of the companies are censured in the report and Fisher is referred to as "a man who the public believed had always evaded his just obligations to the city."

The report concludes with an interesting recital of the duties of the private citizen, and by urging councilmen to refrain in future from accepting favors from corporations or individuals, who are likely to have matters pending before the Council.

The last paragraph urges the adoption of the accompanying ordinance, and the report is concurred in and signed by all the members of the committee.

General Anderson read the report with great deliberation and care, and it caused but one or two ripples. Mr. Mills took exception to the reference made to him, and charged that Chairman Minor had asked a favor of a corporation while a member of the Board and that was all that was charged against him (Mills).

The privileges of the floor were granted Mr. Minor and he denied Mr. Mills' statement, and said he was a member-elect at the time he had written a letter asking that a man be given a place with the telephone company, though he had not qualified.

Mr. Hicks made a breezy speech against suspending the rules to pass the ordinance proposed by the committee, declaring that he was a member-elect, and he would return the statement to the committee, and to erect barriers between himself and his constituents.

The report and ordinance will come before the Board of Aldermen at the regular meeting of that body to-morrow.

Report in Full.

The full text of the report, which was read at length by Subchairman Anderson, and ordered spread upon the minutes, is as follows:

The Board of Aldermen and Common Council of the city of Richmond: Gentlemen.—Your special joint committee on investigation, created by the joint resolution of June 16, 1903, beg leave to submit the following supplemental report, and herewith return the statement in report of all the evidence taken by the committee.

The duties devolving upon your committee, but one of a most unpleasant character, but no effort has been spared to make the investigation as thorough as possible. This resolution, creating the committee and outlining the scope of the investigation restricted the inquiry to matters occurring within the preceding five years and directed the evidence to

be taken publicly. The latter requirement seriously handicapped the investigation, for it made it extremely difficult to induce the witnesses to talk freely, and made it necessary for the committee to proceed with great caution in order, as far as possible, to avoid bringing in the names of innocent persons.

Your committee, through its chairman and the city attorney, the effort to induce the many rumors which were current as to corrupt practices, examined privately many witnesses for every one placed on the stand.

General E. P. Meany, of the Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, residing in New York, was requested to appear before the committee, but declined on the ground that he could give the committee no information which was not already in their possession.

Mr. George E. Fisher, formerly connected with the Passenger and Power Company, also residing in New York, positively refused to appear before the committee in Richmond, or to receive or testify before a sub-committee, if one were sent to New York.

The Conclusions.

Upon a very careful consideration of all the evidence before us, your committee has reached the following conclusions:

In July or August, 1900, John M. King, while a member of the Board of Aldermen from Jefferson Ward, received money from C. B. Crouch, a well-known politician in writing declined to appear before the committee on Markets the contract for painting the roof of the Old Market as very extravagant.

In November, 1900, the said King offered to sell his vote and influence in the Richmond Telephone Company, in consideration of the said company awarding to C. B. Crouch, with whom he was personally interested, the contract for painting only of its barns. This offer was declined by the Traction Company.

In the autumn of 1901, King offered for \$150 to sell his vote and influence on the Street Committee to the Richmond Telephone Company, who were then negotiating for a franchise similar to that which had just been granted to the Southern Bell Telephone Company; and for an additional \$150 to sell to the same company his vote and influence in the Board of Aldermen when the matter should come before the committee for a franchise. This offer was declined by the Traction Company.

In the spring of 1902, King offered for \$50 to sell his vote and influence on the Board of Aldermen to the Richmond Telephone Company, which was seeking to secure from that committee leave to extend to the city the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway. This offer was declined by the Traction Company.

Exonerate Councilmen.

These four cases, all involving John M. King alone, are the only cases in which your committee has been able to secure satisfactory evidence establishing the acceptance of, or the offer to accept, a bribe by a member of either branch of the Council.

Mr. Morgan R. Mills, a member of the Council from Jefferson Ward, and Mr. John T. West, member of the Common Council from Madison Ward, have each, within the past two years, approached the committee for the use of their names as incorporators of the Passenger and Power Company with the request for a loan of several thousand dollars. They, in a very careful consideration of these two cases, your committee is of the decided opinion that the evidence is not sufficient to show that, as a consideration for the money, they had given any assurance of future assistance and support in the Council, or before the committee, which their names were used for. The Passenger and Power Company declined to make the loan.

But your committee cannot refrain from expressing the utmost severity of its disapproval of the conduct of a member of the Council requesting a loan from a corporation, which the transaction was likely at any time to have, pending before the Council matters in which the interests of the public would be seriously affected. It is the duty of a Councilman to protect the interests of the city, and if he is unable to do so, he should resign. If he is unable to do so, he should resign. If he is unable to do so, he should resign.

Despite the fact that Fisher had denied that more than \$10,000 had been used, your committee is of the opinion that the \$50,000 had been spent in the employment of political workers and in entertaining Councilmen and in other ways. The refusal of the loan was calculated to provoke the hostility of the applicant towards the party refusing it, and there is evidence tending to show that it did so in each of these instances.

Almost Criminal.

Your committee finds that the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Richmond Passenger and Power Company, in order to secure the passage of their respective franchises, adopted methods only just short of criminal.

The Street Committee was engaged in the consideration of the franchise of the Richmond Telephone Company from February 15, 1901, to June 21, 1901, inclusive, during which time an investigation was conducted by the committee. After every meeting of the committee, while this franchise was pending before it, a copy of the report of the committee, with the names of the members of the committee, was invariably attended by a large number of persons, and during the same period the same members of the committee were entertained almost daily by the Richmond Telephone Company. The records of the committee show that the same members of the committee uniformly voted in favor of what was desired by the Southern Bell Telephone

Company, Messrs. Givay S. Allen, Peters, Burton and Woody, of the Street Committee, attended neither the supper nor the telephone, and generally voted together in opposition.

After the franchise was recommended by the Street Committee, and while it was pending before the Council, at least four large suppers were given by the representatives of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, and at each of ten members of the Council attended.

New York Trips.

Not less than four trips to New York were made by different members of the Street Committee and City Council at the cost and expense of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, for the alleged purpose of inspecting the company's plant in that city. All of the members of the Council who accepted those trips at the cost of the company voted in favor of the franchise.

During the pendency of this franchise some members of the Council, and some members of the Street Committee, the free use of telephones in their homes and places of business, and continued to use the same without charge by the new Constitution went into effect on July 10, 1902. All who accepted this free local telephone service voted for the franchise.

To all members of the Council and all city officers who desired it, the free use of telephones in their homes and places of business, and continued to use the same without charge by the new Constitution went into effect on July 10, 1902. All who accepted this free local telephone service voted for the franchise.

The Telephone Company also employed large numbers of political workers "to create public sentiment" in its favor. The amounts paid to these workers, sometimes upon good security, sometimes upon no security, according to the political influence they were supposed to possess. The total amount spent by this company in entertaining Councilmen and employing political workers was stated by an official of the company to have been over \$10,000.

The Richmond Passenger and Power Company adopted somewhat similar tactics in order to secure their franchise. The representatives of that company employed political workers "to create public sentiment" and sent various sums of money to different members of the Council, sometimes upon good security, sometimes upon no security, according to the political influence they were supposed to possess. The total amount spent by this company in entertaining Councilmen and employing political workers was stated by an official of the company to have been over \$10,000.

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Alongside of this Corset offering is an assortment of Women's and Children's Woollen Underwear, in which you will find much good picking—at half-price.

Corsets at Half.

We have a goodly gathering of best Corsets that run scant here and there in the sizes. If your size is here, it is your bargain—

R. & G. Corsets, \$2 ones, at \$1.
Royal Worcester Corsets, \$2 to \$4.50 ones, at \$1 to \$2.25.
Black Corsets, R. & G. and P. D., \$1 to \$4.50 ones, at 50c. to \$2.25.

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Political Workers.

In order to "create public sentiment" in and out of the Council in favor of its request, the Traction Company employed various "political workers," under a written contract, in which, however, it was stipulated that no improper means should be employed to influence members of the Council. About \$5,000 was paid to these "political workers" for their services, and for the "legitimate" (2) expenditure of the Traction Company.

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Fourqurean, Temple & Co.

Inducements in the Annex

On Items That Till Now Were Strangers to Little Prices.

These will delight the tasteful housekeeper and give joy to those who love rich effects and beautiful textures, and yet at the changed figures they will surrender to a very frugal purse:

Silk Covered Comforts, down and wool fillings; these are really elegant; were \$12.50 to \$25.00 each, now \$6.25 to \$12.50 each.
Handsome Table Linens, made Cloths, Damask Napkins, some of the finest linens we handle at reductions averaging 25 per cent.
Fancy Covered Cushions, rich designs, reduced 33 per cent.
Pillow Cases, all linen, 35x15 inches, reduced from \$1.25 a pair to 75c.

Splendid Laces Reduced

From 10c. and 12½c. to 5c. a Yard.

Including Plat Val., Point de Paris and Cotton Torchon, in edges and insertions, and forming a practically complete assortment of practical and substantial Laces for every-day uses at a mere fraction of their actual value. This chance will be only for the prompt—

With such Laces at 5c. a yard.

Galloons and Embroideries

a Half and a Third Off.

The Galloons in ecru and in white and some straight hand insertions—

Were 25c. to \$5.50 a yard, now 12½c. to \$2.75.

The Embroideries in Cambric and Nainsook Edges and Insertions, in handsome qualities, in immediate demand—

At reductions that make them a third under price.

A Sale of Muslin Underwear

at Half What it Ought to Bring.

A lot of desirable Muslin Undergarments go on sale to-day at such a generous price-concession that every woman's wardrobe ought to be filled in a little time—

so little are the figures. For instance—

Cambric Drawers, that were \$1 to \$1.25, reduced to 50c.

Chemise, that were \$1 to \$1.25, reduced to 60c.

Chemise, lace trimmed, were \$1.50, reduced to 75c.

Cambric Skirts, elaborate lace trimmings, very full, new cut, were \$4 to \$5 each, reduced to \$2.50.

Cambric Skirts, were \$1.25 each, reduced to 75c.

Muslin Gowns, were 75c. each, reduced to 40c.

Outing Gowns, snug and warm, were 85c. each, reduced to 40c.

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